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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ACTION EUR 22

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/DOS/IR
REVIEWED BY _____ DATE 7/15/10
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P R 081629Z AUG 69
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4004

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 2311

SUBJECT: "CURRENT REACTION"

1. SENATE VOTE ON ABM HAS BEEN LEAD STORY ALL SWEDISH MEDIA SINCE IT BROKE ON RADIO AND TV THURSDAY NIGHT. SWEDISH COMMENTATORS HIGHLY CRITICAL SENATE ACTION, ESPECIALLY GORAN BYTTNER, WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT SWEDISH TV. BYTTNER DID SUGGEST, AS DID MANY LEADER WRITERS, THAT ABM OPPONENTS WILL CONTINUE FIGHT AND THAT ADMINISTRATION MAY GO SLOWLY IN IMPLEMENTING SENATE ACTION IN VIEW OF STRENGTH AND ZEAL OF OPPOSITION. SUPPLEMENTING BYTTNER COMMENTARY, TV CARRIED THREE MINUTES OF FOOTAGE SENATORS FULBRIGHT AND KENNEDY.

2. GOTEBORGS HANDELS-OCH SJOFARTSTIDNING (LIBERAL) COMMENTED:

3. THIS WILL BE IN A CLASS BY ITSELF AS THE MOST EXPENSIVE DEFENSE SYSTEM IN WORLD HISTORY.... JUST AS THE HUGE COSTS OF THE SUCCESSFUL MOON VISIT HAVE BEEN VIEWED IN RELATION TO THE U.S.A.'S MANY UNFILLED NEEDS ON THE SOCIAL PLANE, THESE NEW DEFENSE BILLIONS WILL AROUSE INDIGNATION IN MANY QUARTERS. THE ABM SYSTEM WILL PROBABLY SET EMOTIONS THROBBING EVEN MORE SINCE ONE CAN POINT THE FINGER HERE AT THE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX AND A CONTINUING MILITARIZATION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY....

4. OTHER ABM REACTION SENT SEPARATELY.
SWAN

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